

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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THE SOURCE EVALUATIONS IN THIS REPORT ARE DEFINITIVE.
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1. At Czech Silk (Ceske hedvabi) National Enterprise, the artificial silk plant in Lovosice (N50-31, E14-04), employees were not paid their August salaries on 1 September 1954, as has always been customary, but a full week later, on 7 September. The Works Council of this enterprise called a meeting of the workers on 2 September and asked them to be patient as no funds had been remitted by the State Bank. The Works Council sent a complaint to the Ministry of Chemical Industry.
2. Money was finally received on 7 September 1954, but only manual workers were paid their full wages. Administrative and technical workers received 200 crowns on account. They still had not received their August salary by 15 September. In view of the fact that white-collar workers have repeatedly failed to receive their salaries on time, a number of them have applied for transfer to the manual workers' category.
3. Most of the employees of the Building Combine (Stavebni kombinat) of the city of Lovosice had only received 100 crowns of their August earnings by 9 September 1954. In this instance the authorities explained that the State Bank had not remitted their salaries because "they had failed to fulfill their plan". There was much discontent, and a number of workers loudly demanded their release and permission to seek employment elsewhere. Absenteeism immediately increased considerably. The manager and delegates of the Works Council went to see the chairman of the KNV (Regional National Committee) in Usti nad Labem, but the latter explained that this was not his problem. As of mid-September 1954, no decision had yet been made in Prague in the matter of back wages.
4. On 10 September 1954, a truck driver from Czech Silk, National Enterprise, in Lovosice drove to collect some materials at Agrostroy, National Enterprise, in Roudnice nad Labem (N50-25, E 14-15). The driver asked some of the workers of that plant to help him load the goods. They refused to do so, in spite of the fact that they were loafing around and not doing anything. They explained to him that they, too, had failed to receive their past wages in full and were therefore not inclined to do more than was absolutely essential.

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